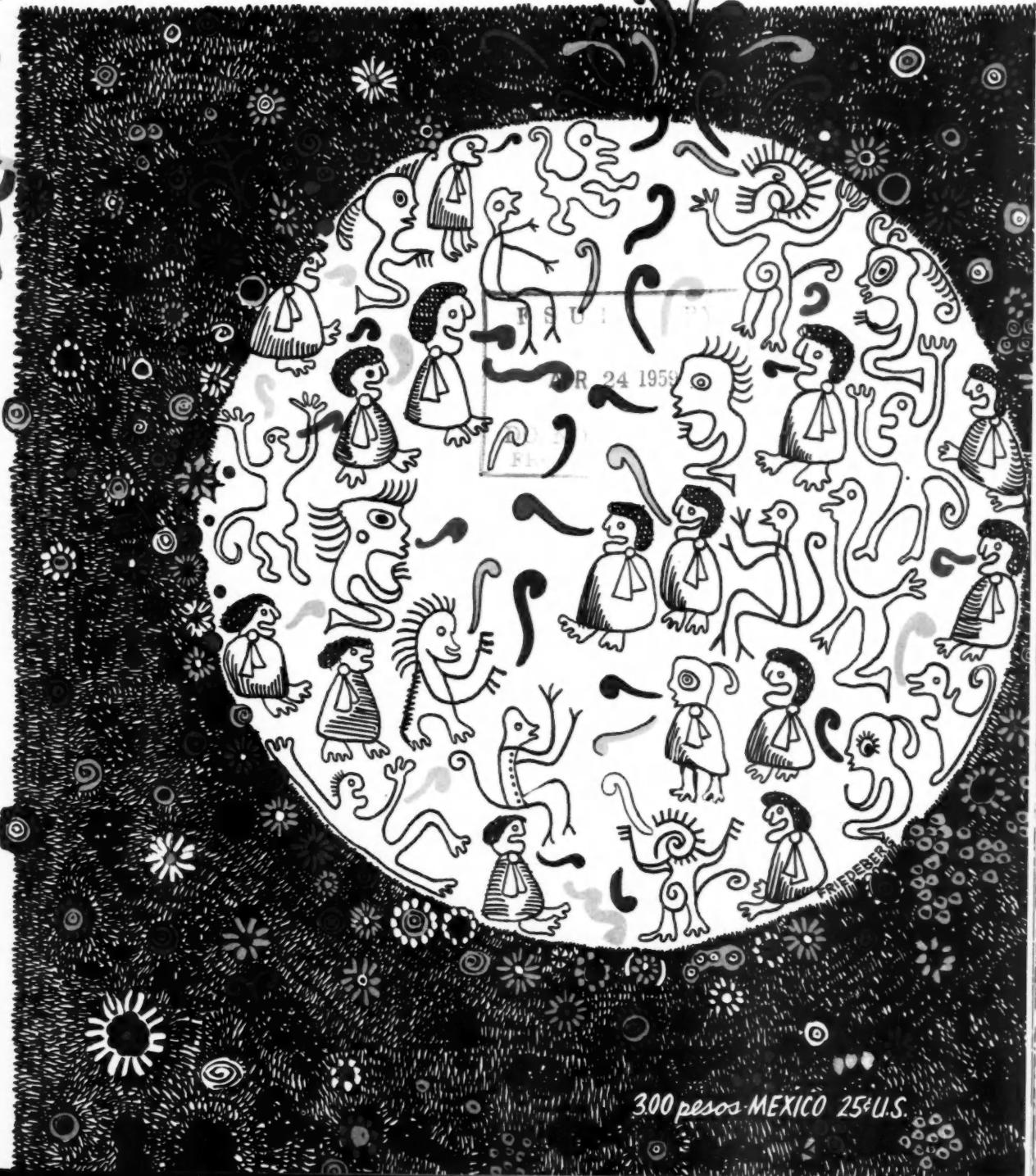


MEXICO / this month ~ April 1959

in this issue: April
flowers. Zapata.
educational growth.
Quetzada cartoons.
Arruza. destinies.

MEXICO / this month ~



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MEXICO

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Conventions — More than 100 delegates of the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) will gather in Mexico City for their annual convention April 17 to 23. On the heels of the Travel Agents will arrive 5,000 delegates of the Panamerican Medical Association accompanied by their families for a Congress lasting from April 25 until May 4.

Home Fair — Opening on April 17 for a one-month run is the annual Feria del Hogar, in which every conceivable home product—from homes themselves to can-openers—is on beguiling display at the mammoth National Auditorium in Chapultepec Park. Manufacturers and customers have a field day and you'll finish up the day with one or two shopping bags bulging with samples of soups, tequilas, shampoos, and soaps, along with some pretty clever—and sometimes useful—gimmicks for advertising Mexican-made products for the home.

San Marcos Fair — held each year in the city and state of Aguascalientes. (See Fiestas and Spectacles as well as Page 9).

Spring Garden Tours — The Club de Damas de San Angel, a group of ladies dedicated to charitable endeavors, struck on the happy idea some nine years ago of organizing tours through some of Mexico City's beautiful private gardens. On each tour a visit is included to a 16th Century Colonial home, an 18th Century example, the home of a famous person, and a very modern home. In the last home a home-cooked luncheon is served. The tours are limited to a minimum of 30 persons and a maximum of 100, and arrangements should be made one month in advance. Write to club's president, Mrs. R. C. Hill, Guerrero 10, San Angel.

Outdoor Theater — Guanajuato's famous outdoor theater continues throughout weekends of April and May.

Flower Festival — celebrated April 12 in Xochimilco. Music, dancing, canoe rides and the election of a queen. This fiesta has been held annually for more than 500 years.

United Nations — the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations will meet here from April 7 to 24. (See News and Comment).

Preview

WHAT TO SEE, WHERE TO GO IN

april

IN THIS ISSUE WE ARE FEATURING

Every Tree a School — 10
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fiestas & spectacles

April 1-7. San Cristóbal Las Casas, Chiapas. Popular fair commemorating the foundation of the city.

April 1. Etla, Oaxaca. Tremendous market day attended by natives from the surrounding area dressed in their typical costumes. They often participate in the indigenous dances.

April 1. Oaxaca, Oaxaca. Pilgrims travel miles in order to honor the image of *el señor de Las Penas* on this day.

April 15-17. Fortín de Las Flores, Veracruz. Traditional Flower Festival in this tropical mountain village where flowers are a trade mark and swimming pools have floating gardenias.

April 15-30. Progreso, Yucatán. Spring festival combined with a religious celebration in this sleepy little village on the peninsula of Yucatán. The occasion is further animated by sporting events and regional dances.

April 16. Ticomán, Morelos. On this day the famous dance of the Chinelos is executed here. This is actually a *Carnaval* dance of this area, but the dancers only come to Ticomán and its neighbor Coyocac on this day.

APRIL climate

City	(F.)	(Inches)
	Temp	Rain
Acapulco	80	—
Cuernavaca	72	0.3
Guadalajara	70	—
Mérida	81	1.0
México, D. F.	63	0.5
Monterrey	74	1.1
Oaxaca	72	1.0
Puebla	65	0.5
Taxco	75	0.9
Tehuantepec	72	1.4
Veracruz	77	0.8

April 21-26. Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas. Commercial fair featuring Indian crafts and products from throughout the region. Natives dance to the music of the *marimba*, *tunkul* and *chirimia*—classic instruments of Chiapas.

April 25. Aguascalientes, Aguascalientes. Annual San Marcos Fair which according to natives of that area causes the hilarity of Mardi Gras to appear dim in comparison. See pag. 9.

April 28. Tenabo, Yucatán. Another Spring Festival with music, regional dances and general uproar lasting until May 3.

April 30. Mixtequilla, Oaxaca. Religious fiesta honoring Santa Catalina de Sena. Firecrackers at dawn put the day in motion, followed by a reunion at the Mayor's house, and in the evening an all out dance.

art

Galeria Proteo, Génova 34, second floor.

From April 23 to 27 a collective exposition celebrating the third anniversary of the Gallery. Works of Echeverría, Ximénez Botey, Cuevas, Vladí, Patric, Marisole Worner Baz, Leonora Carrington, Bartoli and others. This show will follow an exhibition of oils by Venezuelan artist Felipe Vallejo.

Galeria Diana, Pasco de la Reforma 489. Paintings of Pedro Friedeberg.

Galeria Antonio Souza, Génova 61, second floor. Works of Greek painter Bageris.

Galeria de Artes Plásticas de la Ciudad de Mexico, Pérgolas de la Alameda Central. Paintings of Luis Vizuet.

Taller de Grafica Popular, Netzahualcóyotl 9. Lithographs, wood engravings, etc. of Leopoldo Méndez, Mariana Yampolsky, Alberto Beltrán, Fanny Rabel and other artists.

Galerias Chapultepec, near the Monument to the Heroes at the entrance to Chapultepec Forest. Exhibit of Japanese artist Mituya Isiko. Also ceramics, engravings, lithographs, etc. of various young Mexican artists.

Galeria Romano, José María Marroqui 5. Presents its XII Spring Salon.

Instituto de Arte de Mexico, Puebla 141. Landscapes in oils and drawings by Mexican painters.

Galeria de Arte Mexicano, Milán 18. Exhibiting the works of García Ponce.

Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno, Palacio de Bellas Artes. New exhibitions are: The Discoverers of the Mexican Landscape. Works by José Clemente Orozco, 49 sculptures of Antonio Mardonio Magaña and 43 paintings by Manuel Rodríguez Lozano. On permanent exhibition in the numerous salons of the Palace are murals by Orozco, Rivera, Siqueiros and Tamayo.

Museo Clemente Orozco, Hamburgo 113. Dedicated to the works left by the artist.

Museo Frida Kahlo, Londres 127, Coyoacán. Former home of the artist and her famed husband, Diego Rivera, is now a unique museum of herself, her works, a collection of Mexican toys and popular art objects.

Mexican Northamerican Institute of Cultural Relations, Hamburgo 115. After April 9 an exhibition of paintings by Lee Domez.

Museo Nacional de Historia, Chapultepec Castle. Permanent exhibit of the history

and art from the colonial period until the end of the last century. Collections of paintings, jewels, clothes, fans, china, etc. Especially interesting are the rooms as they were occupied by Maximilian and Carlota.

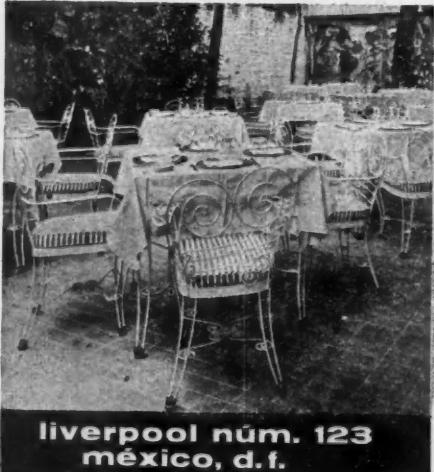
Museo Nacional de Artes e Industrias Populares, Ave. Juárez 44. Permanent and complete sale exhibition of popular arts and crafts from every corner of Mexico. Browsers are welcomed.

theater

El Hombre Que Hacia Llover — Richard Nash's Rainmaker adapted for Spanish by Xavier Rojas. Principal roles for this production in the round by José Hernández are filled by Beatriz Aguirre, José Gálvez, Antonio Bravo, Fernando Luján, Angel Merino and José Alonso. Teatro el Granero (in back of the National Auditorium). Tel. 20-43-31. Daily at 8:30; Saturdays, 7:15 and 9:30; Sundays, 5 and 8 pm. Dark on Monday.

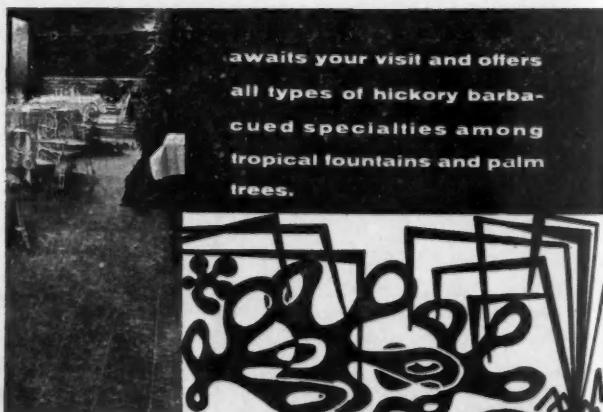
Mira Hacia el Hogar — or Look Home-ward Angel, the Thomas Wolf drama of an Irish family now in Spanish dialogue directed by Jébert Darién. María Douglas will lead the cast. Teatro Jorge Negrete, Al- amirano and Artes. Tel. 16-51-39. Daily performances at 8:30; Saturdays, 7:15 and 9:45; Sundays 5 and 8 pm. No performances Monday.

the new gardens of the



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Asesinato En La Catedral — (Murder in the Cathedral) T. S. Elliot's suspense drama is enacted every Monday by the study group of Poesía en Voz Alta. José Luis Ibáñez, Raúl Dantés and Juan José Gurrola, have the leading roles. 9 pm. Teatro Fábregas, Donceles 24. Tel. 13-93-06.

El Alcalde de Zalamea — Presented by the Spanish Theater Company in Mexico for Outdoor Theater. Stars Eduardo Fajardo, Manola Saavedra and José Solé under the direction of Alvaro Custodio. Colegio de las Vizcaínas, San Juan de Letrán and the Plaza de las Vizcaínas. Check the newspapers for dates.

Teatro Infantil — The 1959 season of Theater for Children will open with Little Red Riding Hood, The Tailor's Three Daughters and others. Manuel Lozano and his Players are in charge of all productions. Teatro de la Casa del Maestro, Naranjo 174. Tel. 16-04-49. Monday through Friday 10 am. to 4 pm.

Todos Son Mis Hijos — Arthur Miller's tremendous drama All My Sons is directed by Seki Sano, and stars Wolf Rubinskis, Adriana Roel and Felipe Cueto. Sala Chopo, Insurgentes and Puebla. One performance daily at 8:30; Saturdays, 7:15 and 9:45; Sundays, 5 and 8 pm.

Mi Hermosa Dama — Broadway's My Fair Lady in Spanish is still on the road after a successful opening in Monterrey. Manolo Fábregas directs, coproduces and plays Mr. Higgins to an Eliza as presented by a new star, Cristina Rojas. Supporting roles are handled by Anita Blanch, Magda Donato, Miguel Suárez, Salvador Quiroz, Mario Alberto Rodríguez and others. Songs have been put in Spanish by Luis de Llano and the orchestra is under the direction of Mario Ruiz Armengol. Mexico City opening will be announced in the newspapers.

Así En La Tierra Como En El Cielo — A five act play by Fritz Hochwaelder, translated by Miguel Flursheim and under the direction of Fernando Wagner. Leading roles are filled by Carlos Navarro, Luis Beristáin, Fernando Mendoza, Carlos Fernández and Guillermo Zarur. Teatro Fábregas, Donceles 24. Tel. 18-39-60. Two performances daily at 7:15 and 9:45. Sundays 5 and 8 pm.

music

Piano Concert — Three recitals by Alexander Brailowsky will be offered April 13, 16 and 20. Sala de Espectáculos, Bellas Artes. 9 p. m.

Youth Concerts — Local and resident artists are scheduled to perform every Wednesday in the Sala Ponce of Bellas Artes at 9 pm. using the following schedule:

April 1—Duets by soprano Eva Bran and mezzo-soprano Shirley Sturges Murguía accompanied on the piano by Juan Bosco Correro. The singers will interpret works by Mozart, Schumann, Brahms, Dvorak, Menotti and others.

April 8—Gloria Carmona from Guanajuato will present piano selections by Beethoven, Chapin, Halffter and Ravel.

April 15—From Guadalajara, Arturo Xavier González, violoncellist and Manuel Elias, pianist will play works by Beethoven, Schubert and Oscar Frank.

April 22—Soprano Teresa Orantes from San Salvador will sing selections from the works of Mozart, Dvorak, R. Strauss and Silvestre Revueltas.

April 29—Ángelica Méndez, pianist from Hermosillo chooses music of Bach, Scarlatti, Mozart, Chopin, Debussy, Jacques Ibert and others.

Mexican North American Institute of Cultural Relations at Hamburgo 115 will present a recital by soprano Consuelo Castro Escobar during the month of April. Date is as yet unannounced.

bullfights

Plaza México and El Toreo bullrings. Every Sunday at 4:30 pm. The leading ma-

tadores of Mexico make appearances in the ring: Lorenzo Garza, Fernando de los Reyes ("El Callao"), Alfredo Leal, Carbajal, Trinchera (Portuguese), España, Carlos Arruza (Rejoneador), Luis Castro ("El Soldado"), Calesero, Luis Procuna, Juan Silvestri, Jaime Bolaños, Manuel Capetillo, Emilio Rodríguez and Jorge ("El Ranchero") Aguilar.



sports

Boxing — Arena Coliseo, Perú 77. Fights are on Mondays and Wednesdays starting at 9 pm. Saturdays a card is scheduled at the larger Arena Mexico, Dr. Río de la Loza 94, at which time the Arena Coliseo closes.

Baseball — There will be no organized baseball in Mexico City until May 12, when the "Liga Asociación Panamericana de Beisbol" starts its four months schedule at Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, when Monterrey meets Victoria. Seven former Liga Mexicana teams will meet five Texas League teams in 192 games which will be played at Monterrey, Victoria, Mexico City, Nuevo Laredo, Mérida and Poza Rica in Mexico and Corpus Christi, Austin, San Antonio, Amarillo and Tulsa in the United States.

Frontón Metropolitano — Bahía de Todos Santos 190. Women players using rackets bailed here. Functions Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 4:15 pm. On Mondays play gets going at 4:30 pm. There is no program Thursdays.

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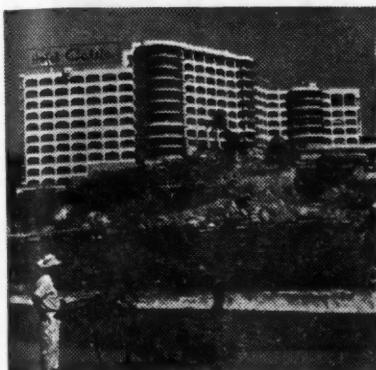
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this month IN ACAPULCO

For those looking for bargains and/or privacy, April is the best month of the year in Acapulco. The winter season is tapering off and the hectic summer season has not yet begun.

Caleta beach will be booming as ever, but there will be quiet spots along the bay shore, as well as a noteworthy abundance of all types of accommodations, ranging from the super de luxe to the more modest rooming house.

Veteran visitors to Acapulco this spring will notice quite a difference in the town, thanks to the late-February conference between President Eisenhower and President Lopez Mateos. Hotel men and city officials pooled resources and gave Acapulco a thorough face-lifting, and the place looked so nice that they have resolved to try to keep it that way. Street and beach vendors are practically gone, along with unsightly soft drink stands which in recent years had sprung up like dandelions.

The scenic highway between downtown Acapulco and Puerto Marques is now smooth as glass—all chuck holes filled in—and lined by a fresh white stripe and painted curbings as you get close to the center. City workers have learned that a bit of judicious trimming keeps the stately beachfront palms neat and tidy—quite a refreshing departure from their demented shagginess of earlier days.

Visitors from stateside are invariably intrigued by the many exotic birds of Mexico, and particularly those in Acapulco. Unfortunately, international customs regulations seem to draw the line at parrots and plants. If you contemplate returning home with a live souvenir, be sure to investigate with a veterinarian and the custom inspector before subjecting the remembrance to the discomfort of a fruitless trip to the border. Parrots aren't that keen on travel, anyway. If you are really determined, and have cleared all of the legal hurdles involved, be sure not to overlook the most important of all. Ask about your prospective pet's adaptability to your home town climate. Otherwise you might have a very unhappy parrot on your hands.

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From our readers

UP AND UP

Our future plans are to retire in Mexico if at all possible.

We go at such a fast pace here in the states that your easygoing pace, plus climate and beauty, is for us. Last but by no means least, we love the Mexican people.

May I join you in wishing you and the Republic all the best of everything for having chosen such a wonderful man for your new "Presidente" I know Mexico will go up and up in the future. But please, let's keep the beauties, climate, and the peoples as they are.

Dorothy Strohm
Lake Lotawana, Rte. No. 4
Lee's Summit, Mo.

DUST OF MEXICO

I guess it is with me like someone once said, "He who has the dust of Mexico on his heart can never shake it off."

I would also say, "One who visits Mexico can truly say, Soon I should like to return for another stay."

I was there in '55 and '58. I sure enjoyed these trips very much. I am looking forward to another visit in the near future.

Norman Koenigs
PO Box 581
Fond du Lac, Wis.

GOOD BEHAVIOR

I think that a comment by my 12-year-old daughter is appropriate. After picking the children up in Cuernavaca, where they had spent six months with the Radisuhls at the American Institute, we spent a few days in Acapulco. While driving back to the states my daughter queried: "Daddy, why doesn't the United States Government make all the tourists go to school to learn how to behave before they let them travel in Mexico?"

Curtis G. Chezem
2268-A 37th St.
Los Alamos, N. Mex.

GRAIN OF SALT

The article in the February issue, "Taxes in Mexico" by John Morris Ryan is of particular interest. Having spent all of my active life in the mining industry in the Western States, Alaska, and British Columbia, I have from time to time had occasion to review reports on mining properties in Mexico, and then discuss them with engineers representing other mining companies who had experience in Mexico. I was usually advised that the tax laws and restrictions were such in Mexico that the investment of United States capital was not encouraged.

Under the heading "How does a new or needed industry qualify for exemption?", paragraph 4, in speaking of an extractive industry, states: "... (aside from metals mining, which is subject to special legislation...)" If possible I would very much like to receive a copy of this special legislation, preferably in English.

Vol. V, No. 4, April, 1959

Perhaps Mr. Ryan would care to explain this particular phase of the subject in some detail.

Rowland King
Hotel Instituto
San Miguel de Allende, Gto.

(*Mr. Ryan reports that this aspect of Mexican taxation falls under the Mining Tax and Development Laws, an English copy of which is available for 30 pesos or \$6.00 U. S. from the U. S. Chamber of Commerce of Mexico, Plaza Santos Degollado No. 10, México 1, D. F. "Although it is true that there are many legal complications affecting in Mexico," says Mr. Ryan, "the situation is much better than it is often described. It is understandable that businessmen should complain about taxes; but then they do that in any country and probably some of it should be taken with a grain of salt."*—Ed.)

Our Cover: Becoming a household word in these parts, "internationalism" inspires a decorative cover of statesmen in conference. What they're saying is explained below where you see the hook.

MEXICO/this month EDITOR
ANITA BRENNER

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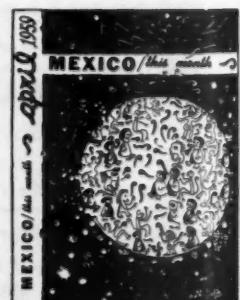
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Page 9 upper left Don Briggs, two lower left Mariel Pease; page 10 both Mayo, page 11 center right Mayo; lower Guillermo Zamora; page 12 both Mayo; page 13 Armando Salas Portugal; page 16 all Dave Weber; page 17 Armando Salas Portugal; page 18 Casasola file; page 20 Hugo Menéndez.



This little hook (M T M's sign), swiped from the Aztec codices, means words, music, wind and waves.

person to person

For MTM this issue is a Signpost in a big way: four years of publication. And, though your editor (as our regular readers know) is often astonished that, in these days of chains, combines, mass media and so on, a magazine so unconventional as ours could survive at all, and with nothing but Angus for capital hovering above (on Cloud Nineteen) our readers seem to be so confident we're going on forever that they send us subscriptions covering two, three, and even six years ahead, with pleasant little notes telling us that this is to make sure they don't miss an issue.

What this proves businesswise, we haven't the faintest idea. We've ignored all the rules, including and especially, operating altogether without \$; on the simple-minded notion that, having a story to tell that we find exciting and fun, other people will enjoy sharing it. And so it has turned out. What Mr. Keynes and Madison Ave. would make of this we could stop to wonder, only this month we have so much other wondering to do we will postpone that one.

This month finds us butting up the issue in, of all places, Texas. Not in Abilene, where that cemetery we've heard about with Muzak in it fascinates us, and one we've met yet has been able to tell us for sure, whether it's piped directly into the graves, too, and if so what commercials are there, so it seems as if we will be wondering about it until we have a chance to go and check. This time though we're in San Antonio, checking other matters, and getting educated about many interesting Facts. One of the things here that has made us wonder the most is the strange, beautiful way in which history moves. Because while in our hotel the silverware still says grimly *Remember the Alamo*, the human atmosphere is full of love and kisses for Mexico and Mexicans. It's smart to be Good Neighbors now.

And this fine fashion has so completely done away with the old belligerence, suspicion, swagger and uppityness that one of the arguments going on among savvy politicos is, for instance, whether or no the dam arranged for in the Two-Presidents meetings, which is on Devil's River and so would just naturally be called Devil's Dam or Diablo, (and how apt can a dam be!), is being proposed as El Dos Amigos dam and such sweepingly emotional but also corny other names. It's a big issue here, in which we, exercising diplomatic caution, haven't taken sides. But we've made some private comment.

One of them, to the effect that Mexican politics couldn't safely commit themselves to such

a stance, not all the way and publicly, too often, without losing face (and backing!) astonished the friends I said this to. It is hard even for newspaper people, who do get around, to believe even yet to what extent the U. S. isn't popular. And especially, why. My goodness. You do people all those lend-lease favors, and be helpful all over the place, and then instead of feeling grateful they hate you for it... This seems to be the prevailing sentiment as near as we could tell.

Of course, everybody knows that it's the people you do favors for, who are most likely to hate you but besides this there are even more interesting and—so it seems to us—obvious factors in the picture; it is always *how* you do the favors that makes all the difference. And if the rich man lets even the hint of a shadow of a suggestion of acting patronizing, get into whatever he does, with or for the poorer man, well how would you feel, if you happened to be the one on the receiving end? And if along with this, the rich one tried to tell you how to run your home or your business, on the basis of the fact that he'd lent you some money or given some other help—well, what would you tell him? Right. That's why they throw things at V.I.P.'s sometimes.

If this simple fact, which is the common sense of ordinary people, once percolated into U. S. foreign policy the whole picture would change. And we keep wondering how long it's going to be before it does, and if it's going to happen soon enough to recover the immense areas of lost, and constantly being lost, territory of freedom, in the battle for control of mankind, that is the story of our time.

We've also been asked often in the course of such discussions, why Mexico seems to have become so important internationally... Presidents, Senators, royalty, Krupps, Edens, all sorts of names that make news keep coming thru datelined Mexico. Could it be only that they're all suddenly bored with the Riviera and yearning for Acapulco type romance sprinkled with stars from all over? What cooks...?

And we keep trying, in brief, but not very often succeeding, to tell the story of how, in the eyes of many, many peoples who now face the problems that Mexico has been wrestling with for a couple of very stormy and then a couple more extremely vigorous generations, that the way Mexico has gone about solving her problems with gumption, dignity, imagination and considerable success, now

attracts many experts and scholars and leaders from all over, who want to learn—what cooks; and how. And thus because of how she has done things for herself, Mexico finds herself a leader in the world, and a stage for many wrestles of international key importance.

It is odd. But so increasingly a world fact that, for instance, for the United Nations Economic and Social Council to hold its meetings here this month, seems logical to most of its members. And valuable both ways, or rather multiple ways.

Significant too is for instance the fact that two of Mexico's ex-Presidents, General Lázaro Cárdenas and Don Emilio Portes Gil, have been traveling around here and there in the world, mostly by invitation, talking to statesmen and influentials of many kinds; who seem to give a great deal of importance to making friends and so on, in Mexico and with Mexicans. For example Nasser has gone to quite a bit of trouble to win the sympathetic hearing of Portes Gil, and the Chinese and Yugoslavs have done ditto vis-a-vis Cárdenas.

So to throw light and point on this significant story of the emerging international activity and importance of Mexico we asked Dan James, one of our keenest writers, to do us a quick piece on Mexico as leader in Latin America; which we've published in this issue, along with a few choice drawings of the wittiest man in years, Abel Quezada. As you see his mind runs very much on international matters, and usually so successfully that all of reading Mexico notes his daily opinion in *Excelsior*, a leading morning paper, which has the advantage that, after having presented you with a front-page like any other in the world nowadays, calculated to curdle the cream in your coffee, you get an editorial page with Quezadadismos that send you off to work laughing.

Isn't there a Nobel, Pulitzer or something adequate for this kind of contribution to mutual understanding and good cheer, or any way the sanity of nations?



NATIONAL PANORAMA

LATIN AMERICAN COMMON MARKET IN THE MAKING

As released to MTM by
The Bureau of Economic Research of the
Nacional Financiera, S. A.

The working group of experts named by the Economic Commission for Latin America laid down the bases for a possible agreement on a Common Market for Latin America at their second meeting held in Mexico City, February 16-27. The expert's ideas will be passed on by Government representatives at the forthcoming ECLA meeting in Panama next May.

According to the experts, the arrangement would start out as a free trade area and gradually turn into a customs union. (In a free trade area, as in a customs union, trade barriers among the participating countries are abolished but each country retains its individual tariff in regard to countries outside the area; in a customs union, there is a common external tariff.)

During the first 10-year stage, duties would be substantially reduced and other restrictions eliminated on the exchange of raw materials—with some exceptions in the case of agricultural products—, capital goods and intermediate goods with a fast growing demand. Barriers on manufactured consumers' goods would be reduced more gradually, allowing for slower adjustment of specialized industries already in existence.

The lesser developed countries would receive preferential treatment by way of permitting them higher average tariffs in the first 10-year period. The stage of development would be measured by the degree to which home production could potentially replace imports and by the country's possibilities of becoming exporters of manufactures.

The common market is aimed at including all of Latin America, but an initial arrangement may be made by a group of countries provided that all countries in the area are invited to participate in the initial negotiations and others may join later on specified bases.

Two or more countries may agree on concessions not necessarily to be extended automatically to all members, and countries may accord on matters not specifically covered by the general agreement, such as border trade and common use of natural resources.

The common market would also require a payments union to facilitate multilateral settlements among members and provision would need to be made for extension of short and medium term credits to promote trade expansion.

News and Comment

The first money used in Mexico after the Spaniards came over was a rudimentary currency made by filling the quill of a bird's feather with gold, silver, or copper. These were valued by their weight, or, in Spanish, "peso".

The peso's prestige has had its ups and downs over the centuries, but it now is as solid, or more so, than ever in history. The reason: two recent longterm, low-interest loans totaling 190-million dollars have been made available to Mexico in the form of a \$100 million Eximbank and 90-million line of credit from the International Monetary Fund.

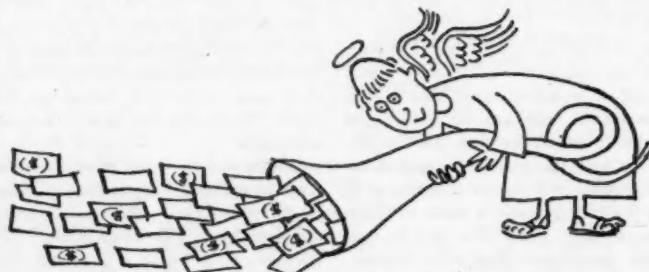
This money raises Mexico's dollar reserves to a record 625-million, which bolsters not only the peso but Mexico's general financial condition as far as both foreigners and Mexicans are concerned. For one, the government promises that the record reserves will mean a drop in interest rates, which may offer the greatest incentive Mexico's flowering economy has ever had.

the national product was a healthy jump ahead of the big 3.1 population increase that Mexico registers each year—a situation that is difficult enough to keep up with, let alone surpass.



Mexico has another aerial link with Europe. Guest Aerovías México has begun what will ultimately be a thrice-weekly service to Lisbon, Madrid, and Paris, by way of Miami. The Mexican line is using DC-6 equipment and will later convert to DC-7C. Maintenance of the planes on the other side of the water is being handled by the Scandinavian Airways System.

This makes four air lines running services from Mexico to Europe. The others are Cubanair de Aviación, Air France, and KLM.



The next cheerful item of springtime news was an official report from the Banco de Mexico verifying what most businessmen down here had already suspected: that Mexico didn't recess along with the United States and a good many other countries in 1958.

Far from receding, the report showed, the country's gross national product went up exactly four percent last year, which was no mean accomplishment in the face of general low tides in the world economy along with lower prices and restrictive quotas on some of Mexico's most vital export products.

Private construction, showed a decline last year of 1.7 per cent, and mining 2.2 per cent. But the rest of the picture was on the plus side: Farming, ranching, forestry and fishing were up 9.7 per cent; petroleum bounced up an incredible 14 per cent; electric output, 7.6 per cent; manufacturing 3.9 per cent, and communications, 3 per cent.

Mexican financial circles have particular reason to be happy with the solid state of business last year. The 4 per cent increase in

The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations holds its spring meeting this month in Mexico, from the 7th to the 21st. Except for once in Chile, the Council has always met either in New York or Geneva. Coming down for the occasion is UN secretary general Dag Hammarskjold.



Railroad passengers coming into Mexico City will step off the train into the most modern terminal in this Hemisphere. Just put into service is the new five-million-dollar, wing-roofed structure that has been built on the site of the old Buenavista station in downtown Mexico City.

The modernistic concrete-and-glass terminal is built to handle up to 10,000 passengers a day, most of them going and coming from other points in Mexico. The new station also handles trains from the U. S. border.



in April

Country Fairs (25th)

The quickening pulse of Spring in Mexico carries along with it a let'er-rip spirit that finds its best outlet in the country fair. Practically every city and village in the provinces sprouts awnings and bazaars and spinning ferris wheels as a logical setting for fireworks and flower-throwing, horse contests and cockfights. The fairest fair of all busts out in Aguascalientes on April 20, when for fifteen days and nights the populace pays gay tribute to San Marcos, the patron saint of a small garden plaza which naturally forms the hub for the most festive whoop-de-do of Springtime in Mexico.

Zapata (10th)

Just forty years ago on the tenth of this month, a powerful and courageous backwoods rebel named General Emiliano Zapata fell into a trap. Asked to parade his troops before federal authorities, he rode his white horse proudly in front of the reviewing platform and then heard, too late, the federal order to fire. He was cut down from all sides, along with a good part of his army. Zapata lived on in legend as the roughest, toughest, and possibly the most idealistic fighter Mexico has ever produced. For photos and facts on this amazing man, see page 18.



Symphony (20th)

Mexico's National Symphony Orchestra, garlanded from an enormously successful world tour that started in Brussels and finished in Texas and counted stops at practically every point in between, opens its spring season back home this month. Guest conductors will share the podium with director Luis Herrera de la Fuente in what promises to be an energetic and exciting season for music lovers in Mexico. This is not unusual. Since the orchestra was formed 30 years ago by Carlos Chávez as Latin America's first symphony, it has blazed a consistent trail in the musical world, offering international premieres of a total of 88 works, many by Mexican and Latin American composers. The list of guest conductors over the years reads like a Who's Who in world music: Stravinsky, Hindemith, Milhaud, Copland, Ansermet, Beecham, Monteux, Stokowsky, and Mitropoulos.





EDUCATION IN MEXICO covers a span of every class and age group in the land.

EVERY TREE A SCHOOL

.... The phrase is taken seriously in Mexico, where a mammoth new education drive is on to erase illiteracy. Behind the plan is Torres Bodet, an experienced educator and poet and public relations man.

SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS are still urgently lacking in Mexico. Some school-less communities, as below, hold classes in the shade of a tree.



(Editor's note: Pulling itself up from an underdeveloped to a self-sustaining country, Mexico has had to battle the familiar enemies of poverty, misery, and ignorance. In its imaginative fight for education, Mexico has become a model of underdeveloped countries everywhere. The following story, first in a series on Mexico's social development, deals with the country's efforts to make every Mexican a lettered Mexican.)

Historically, Mexico had a good running start on education. The first institute of higher learning on the North American continent was established here, in 1553.

It was quickly followed by other universities, most of them open not only to the sons of the *Conquistadores* but to the Indians as well, with courses taught in Nahuatl and Otomi. Colleges for women were established, military and technical schools opened. The great hunger for learning was beginning to spread to the masses.

But the progress of education in Mexico was disrupted by the wars of Independence, the Texas War, the French occupation, and the various internal upheavals of the 19th century.

Still, by the time Porfirio Diaz became President of the Republic, there were 5,000 primary schools in Mexico, and some 20,000 children were receiving an education. During his reign, the first kindergarten was established. In 1909, the last pre-revolutionary year, Diaz spent a record seven million pesos on education.

But then the ten-year Revolution broke out and Mexico was again thrown into chaos. Fighting, hunger, death and disease were the order of the day.

(continued on page 24)



IMAGINATIVE PLANNING and unexpected artistic touches set Mexican schools apart and make pilot studies for school builders from other countries. Below, National Teachers College in Mexico, designed by Mario Pani.





Matador on horseback



An inimitable torero adds new zest to one of the oldest forms of bull fighting

Carlos Arruza, Mexico's world famed bullfighter, is a good example of the axiom that you can take the man out of the Plaza, but you can't take the Plaza out of the man. This year he came out of six years of retirement to make his Mexico City debut as a *rejoneador*, fighting the bull from horseback.

Arruza formally retired from his successful career as a *matador* in 1952, and decided to dedicate himself to the raising of the brave bulls on his ranch, Pastejé, near Toluca. Thus resolved, his life took on the proportions of any serious cattle rancher, with the difference that his bulls are destined for the "moment of truth" instead of the packing house. Maybe that is why he changed, or maybe it's because a man keeps remembering those dramatic Sunday afternoons when he faced both bull and crowd.

His first interest in *rejoneamiento* began with a few practice passes at the ranch, and developed in earnest when he bought seven trained horses in Portugal at an average of \$5,000 apiece. These horses are of a breed similar to the Quarter horse with a strong infusion of Arab blood.

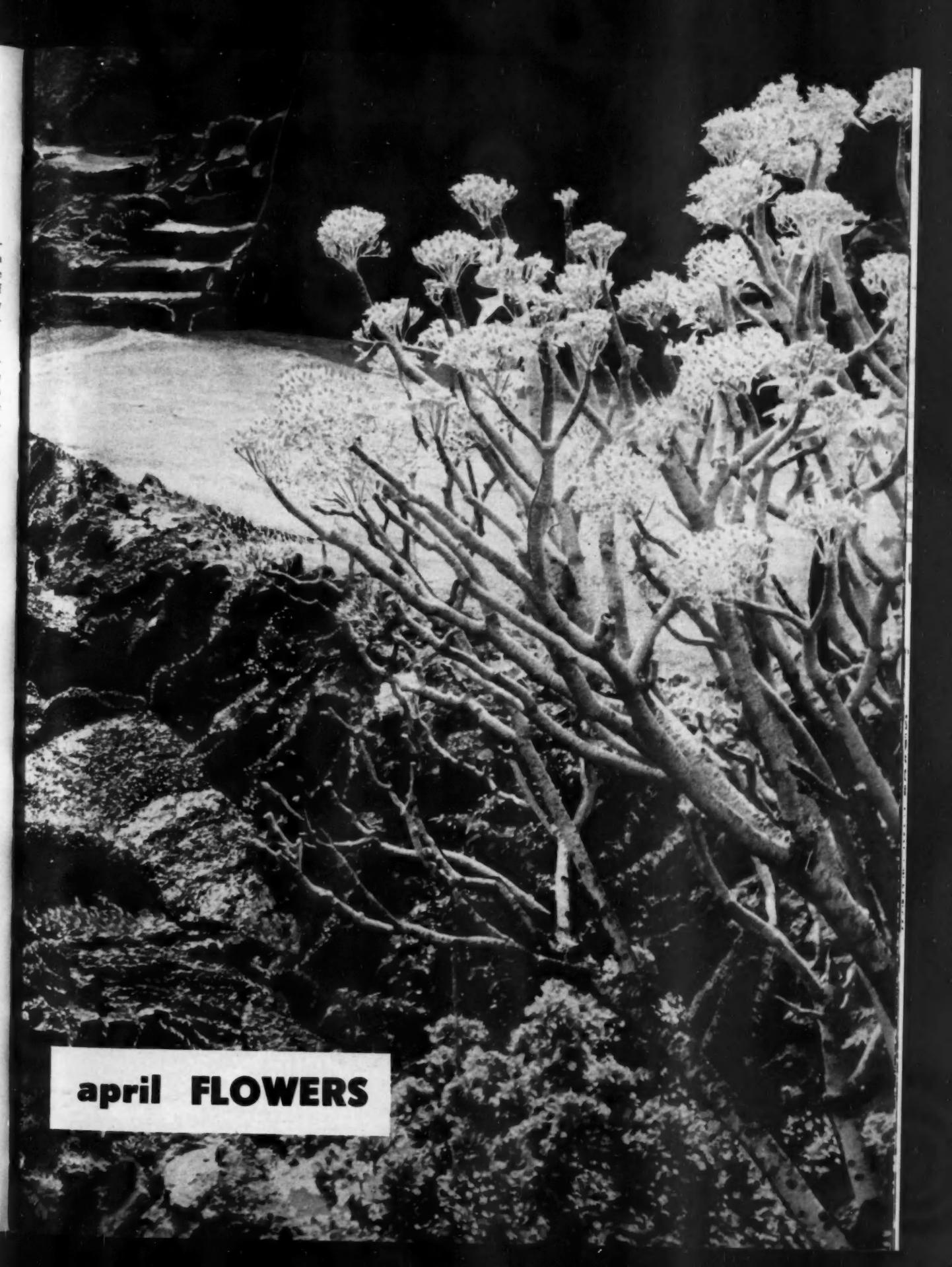
In Portugal, the home of *rejoneamiento*, the stock is called Peninsular. Each animal is trained to the perfection of a dancer, and in general sense he is used as the cape in this spectacle because he provokes the bull, and then deftly pivots out of his path when charged. Due to their sensitive temperament, a limit of ten minutes is all each horse can stand in the ring. Consequently, Arruza has to pack a retinue of horses into an especially constructed truck each time he goes to a *corrida*.

Since his initial appearance in Nogales, the Mexican Cyclone has made a record of 100 corridas in Spain, Portugal, France and Mexico as a *rejoneador*. He adds individuality to his performances by killing the bull on foot. Other *rejoneadores* usually turn the job over to a *novillero*.

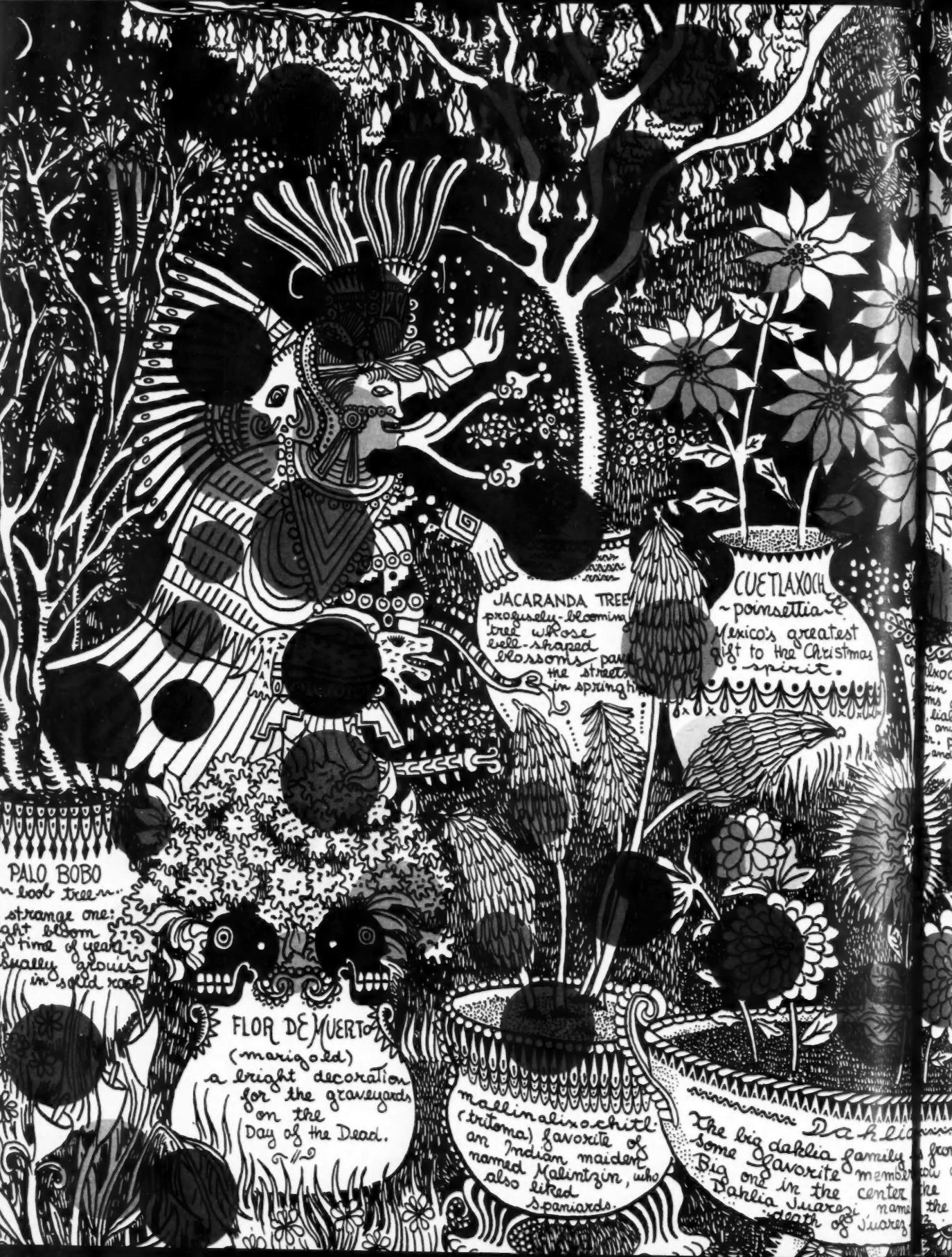
Arruza himself is modestly inclined to regard his new role as an escape valve or a rather costly hobby, and still insists that he is retired except for an occasional benefit performance as a *matador*, and "those don't count." His plans for this year, however, include frequent local *rejoneando* bookings in which he hopes to bring some Mexican horses into play.

BULLFIGHTING gets in the blood; Arruza makes a playful pass above, dog substituting for toro.

MAN AND HORSE must be lightning fast to miss the horns and still plant the "rejon" (small spear.)



april FLOWERS



lirio azteca
AZTEC LILY
(SPREKELIA)
rich velvety crimson
petals mark this
delicate rose lily
flower.

NARDO (tuberous)
a nardo is
a nardo
is a nardo.

CHIMALXOCHITL
-cicrasoe-
(sunflower)

This sun
flower is now
famous over the
world, for its
seeds, if
nothing else.

tlachitl tree
ms of 20
fable to
any time of
the prettier
and edible.

OCELOTXOCHITL
-tigridia-

which gets its name
needless to say, from
striped spots of crimson
petals. flower
also good eating.

from Mexico.
now above.

Flor del Pedregal (milla)
star-lily - another native
of Mexico. this modest lily
is un-splashy, pretty in a
so-so way.

flowers
of
XOCHITL

Xochitl (left) being the ancient
Goddess of gardens, flowers,
women of dubious character,
not to mention artists,
one being PEDRO FRIEDEBERG
who created * this blooming
DIAGRAM for MEXICO THIS month

april 59

* TECHNICAL AID
FROM ARAGON
Y LEIVA.

Mexico's gardens bloom the whole year around but April is an especially explosive month. Flowers and trees are at their glorious best, as a visit to some of these gardens shows.



OLD AND NEW in Mexico City gardens. Above is part of the huge old garden in Casa Alvarado in Coyoacán. Below, garden of ballpoint-
pen king Milton Reynolds has its own putting green.



DOLORES DEL RIO'S colonial-style mansion is set in a big, beautifully calm old garden with its huge lawn, below, where haphazard trees and shrubs seem natural and well-ordered.





OUT IN PEDREGAL practically every garden has a colorin tree, which the Aztecs called cempaotlnochitl. Its red flower can bloom any time.

Zapata

The Attila of the South was the name given to Emiliano Zapata, the small landowners' champion who died violently, but still lives on in legend.

HIS PEASANT FOLLOWERS gathered around him, Zapata in this old photo is shown in his characteristic hat, rifle ever ready.



SOMBER PORTRAIT (right) was taken of Emiliano Zapata in the early days of his war to restore land to the peasants. Another old photograph, center, in which the glass negative plate has cracked, shows Zapata with his brother Eufemia (dark sombrero). Both have their hands instinctively at the draw. Lower photo shows Zapistas parading in Cuernavaca.



By Elsa Larralde

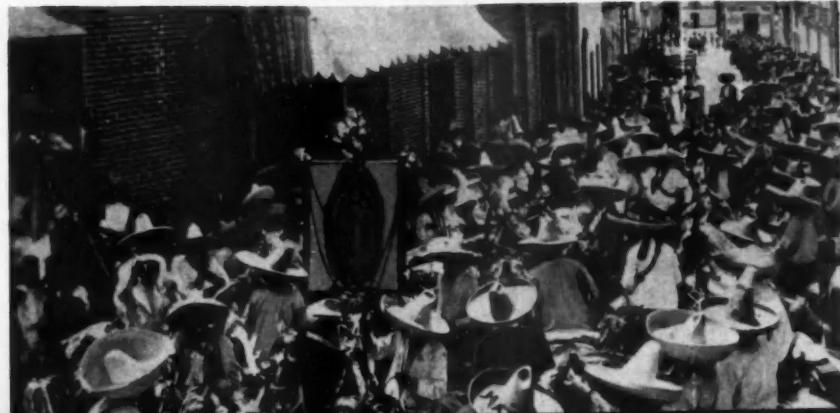
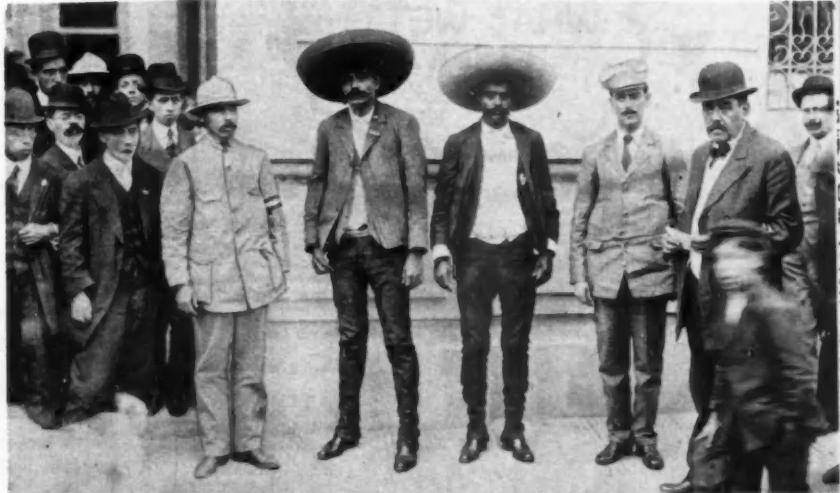
On moonlit nights, say the simple folk who live in the small mountain towns of Morelos state, you can still hear the ghostly pound of hooves on the narrow country lanes and there are those who swear they have actually seen the huge white charger with the rider bent low and his broad sombrero flying in the night wind.

The ghost belongs to Emiliano Zapata, an idealistic, naive, blustering, profane, and courageous backwoods leader who added his own bit to the Revolution by trying to overthrow the big land-owners and give the soil back to the men who tilled it.

Zapata was killed in April of 1919—just 40 years ago this month—in a heavy-handed bit of treachery. To make sure that everybody knew he was dead, federal authorities beheaded his riddled corpse, put the head on the pummel of his saddle, and walked his familiar white horse with its grisly cargo through every village and town in Morelos.

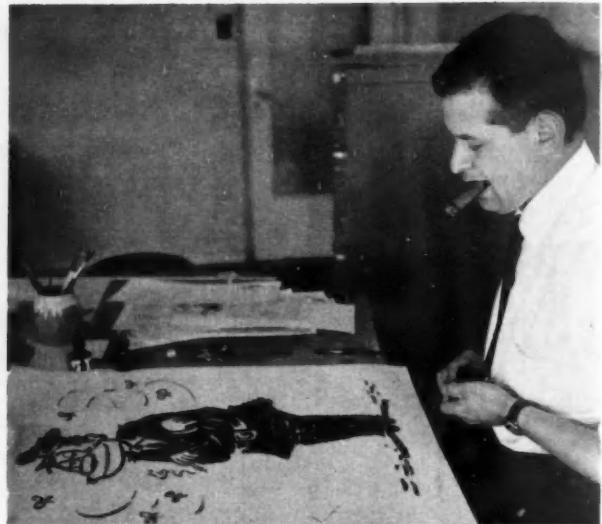
But Zapata was made of legendary stuff and his spirit just couldn't be killed off so simply.

(continued on page 23)



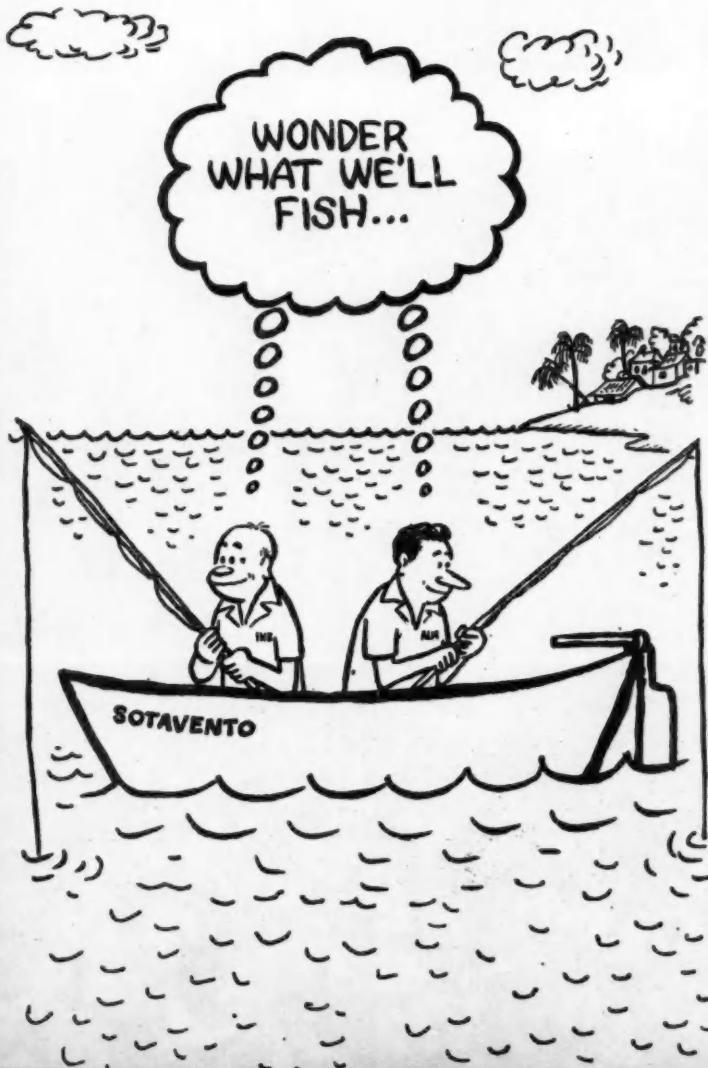
Choose Your Weapons

Abel Quezada, Mexico's leading cartoonist, takes on all comers and usually leaves them smiling



AT SEA

Por ABEL QUEZADA



NOW THAT WE WON A CLAIM IN OUR CHICKEN RAISING INDUSTRY IT'S THE OPINION OF THE U.S. THAT RUSSIA SHOULD LEARN FROM US. NO, NEVER! WE NO SOONER ACHIEVE SUCCESS WITH THE HELP OF OUR HENS, THAT THEY WANT TO OUTSTRIP US.



BESIDES, THEY MIGHT CATCH ONE OF OUR HENS AND WREST HER SECRET FROM HER.



WE DON'T WANT OUR VICTORY IN THE AVICULTURE CONGRESS TO BE STAINED WITH THE BLOOD OF INNOCENT HENS.

by Alardo Prats

A tall, timid young man with dark and melancholy eyes who had recently arrived in the jungle of New York from the desert of Chihuahua was able to subsist for several months on apples and bread.

Such ascetic fare seems more suitable for an ancient hermit, and not for an impetuous young Mexican, but he was sustained by a single ambition — to conquer New York.

Armed with a few simple elements, pen, pencil, and paper, he counted in his talent and the opportunity to present his drawings of ingenuous little figures to someone that mattered. The few people who did see Abel Quezada's cartoons during that time were left perplexed. What was he trying to say? Was this the work of a master of humor and irony or the scrawlings of a schoolboy?

Each day Quezada sallied forth from his drab room to the offices of magazines, newspapers and publicity agencies, but his anticipations of something that would later capture the admira-

tion of thousands of people were still unfulfilled. Between blows, uncertainties and disappointments, however his talent began to mature.

It then happened that Abel Quezada took part in a contest sponsored by a publicity company, and was awarded the first prize. The young artist who had lived on bread and apples won \$1,000.

A thousand dollars in 1947 was a lot of money, and for one month he spent wildly and lived freely. The high point of his purchases was a loud yellow shirt which represented the summit of his clothing ambitions.

He returned to Mexico with his yellow shirt and the remaining handful of the money he had won. His conquest of New York had been partially made.

A year later he had another — more successful — fling in Manhattan. For several years he was director of a small advertising agency. The big city was now fully conquered.

'WE MUST FIGHT FOR A FREE MOON'

UP TO NOW NO ONE HAS GIVEN CREDIT TO THE RUSSIANS FOR LAUNCHING THE FIRST ARTIFICIAL SATELLITE....



IF THE RUSSIANS MAKE THE MOON A COMMUNIST STATE, IT WILL CEASE BEING ROMANTIC.



THEN THE ONLY WAY WE CAN LIBERATE THE MOON IS TO SEND "SUPERMAN" AND "SUPERMOUSE" TO THE RESCUE.

When Quezada came back to his country in 1950 it was to marry Yolanda Rueda. This, plus the subsequent arrival of two children, changed the impudent Bohemian into an orderly family man. He began to publish cartoons for a few magazines and newspapers, and in 1956 he began working for *Ultimas Noticias* and the *Excelsior*.

Since then, thousands of readers await Quezada's daily quip, always sure to be a timely combination of sharp wit, sarcastic humor, and profound human tenderness. He has created several representative personalities of contemporary Mexican society to interpret the country's politics, ideas, activities. At the same time they act as a medium to criticize the shortcomings of local and international societies.

As important as the caricatures are the brief and cutting texts in Quezada's work. He thus follows a Mexican custom set by the engravers and cartoonists of the late 18th century, the most representative of whom was Posada. Quezada has perfected this art, giving it an expression and accent easily understood throughout the world.

His ambitions? "To feel the palpitations and unrest of the people and to express them in the terms of the majority, whose views are generally the same as mine. I hope that my work always carries a little truth in it."

Contrary to general belief, Quezada is not a wealthy man. His income covers his expenses and those of a ranch in Tamaulipas that he inherited from his parents. When he speaks of this ranch, his eyes shine. "At heart I am a rancher," he says, "slightly frustrated."

"THE UNBLEMISHED"

THE TEN YEAR HISTORY IN THE LIFE OF A DICTATOR: PÉREZ JIMÉNEZ.

1948
COUP
D'ETAT.



1952
USURPATION
OF POWER.



1957
REELECTION
EITHER "YES OR NO."



1958
REVOLUTION.



México's "MANIFEST DESTINY"

México is assuming a new role as leader and interpreter of Latin America. Here's why:

By Daniel James

"In less than fifty years we can attain that result [a population of 50 million], and when we do, it is certain that our national destiny will not be what now appears to be our manifest destiny".

These words were published exactly fifty years ago this month by a remarkably prophetic Mexican thinker, Andrés Molina Enríquez, in his definitive study *Our Great National Problems*. Today, while Mexico has not yet reached the 50-million population that Molina Enríquez envisaged (but is close to doing so), she has begun to realize the "manifest destiny" that he half-preached and half-prophesied. For the transcendental, if not immediately apparent, result of the Acapulco meeting of Presidents Eisenhower and López Mateos in February is that Mexico emerged from it the leader of Latin America.

Thus the Acapulco meeting has been characterized as an "interview between the United States and Latin America," not the United States and Mexico. The phrase belongs to the former President of Costa Rica, José Figueres, whose influence extends far beyond his own country. Undoubtedly his view is widely held for the issues raised at Acapulco—such as cotton, coffee, lead-zinc—were not, after all, peculiarly Mexican; and Eisenhower's pledge to help resolve them will benefit not only Mexico but other Latin American republics.

The United States itself has dramatically supported the view that Mexico is the leader of Latin America. What other construction can be placed upon the parade to Mexico of the three most powerful North Americans in a matter of three months, and on the heels of in the visit of López Mateos to the United States?

Mexico is the only Latin American republic that President Eisenhower has paid a state visit to, and he has done so twice since he took office in 1953. (His trip to Panamá in 1956 doesn't count, as he went to attend the meeting of American Presidents.) And his reception of López Mateos on U. S. soil makes the second time that he has met with Mexico's new chief executive in two months.

The parade of northern VIPs to Mexico

started late last November when Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson, who is often termed the second most important man in Washington, conferred with López Mateos in Acapulco. The encounter was significant for two reasons.

First, it opened up a pipeline between the López Mateos regime and the majority party to the north, which has its obvious benefits for Mexico during the twilight of the Eisenhower Republican Administration. Second, it stimulated rivalry between Democrats and Republicans for Mexican—and ultimately Latin American—affections.

Consequently, when López Mateos was inaugurated on December 1st the Republicans could not do less, after Johnson, than to send down for it a leader of the highest caliber. And so they dispatched southward none other than Secretary of State Dulles himself, already a very sick man, and a star-studded delegation which included Dr. Milton Eisenhower and several important Senators.

Then came President Eisenhower. Then the prompt return call of López Mateos.

Why all this attention to Mexico?

The United States, it appears, is beginning to recognize that no Latin American country is as important to it as its contiguous southern neighbor. Latin America, on the other hand, apparently regards its northernmost outpost in the same way. The reasoning on both sides is similar.

Latin Americans and North Americans alike are struck, to begin with, by Mexico's phenomenal rise from an underdeveloped state into a semi-industrial one in the dozen or so short years since World War II. They are no less impressed by the fact that Mexico has simultaneously accomplished the feat of diversifying her economy—an object of particular admiration in a region where one-crop economies are the rule. Since Mexico is the only Latin American country that can be called semi-industrialized and economically diversified, she alone possesses the material basis for continental leadership.

But still more impressive, to observers north and south, is that Mexico alone among the Latin American republics has also achieved political stability and made real progress toward democracy. Mexico is literally the only southern republic that has not experienced a revolt or coup in nearly four decades—compare this record with the continual upheavals which have been taking place nearly everywhere else in Latin America, including such big countries as Argentina and Brazil, in recent years. This means that Mexico, which can now boast a whole generation that knows nothing but orderly and peaceful government, is unique in possessing the political basis, along with the economic, for Latin American leadership.

Now a decided shift in Mexican thinking seems to be taking place. "Why not accept the leadership which Latin America has always offered us?" asks the noted Mexican philosopher, Dr. Leopoldo Zea. "Why not indeed?" more and more Mexicans are echoing.

Mexico appears to be in an ideal position to exercise such leadership. On the one hand, she has acquired the internal strength necessary to support her claim to that leadership. On the other hand, she appears to have the unanimous backing of the peoples to the north and the south, both. And as if history could not have chosen a better time to fulfill Molina Enríquez' prophecy about her "manifest destiny," Mexico has in President López Mateos the leader perhaps best suited to be the instrument of its fulfillment.

The President himself served notice of his intention to play that role when he devoted the very first part of his Inaugural Address to "International Policy," and after pledging that Mexico would participate "ever more intensely" in the Organization of American States, added:

"In America, which is our natural compatriot, we have the opportunity to do more, much more, than in any other part of the world, to lend reality to the kind of [mutual] assistance which we conceive of fundamentally as a guarantee of real solidarity among our peoples."

Should the United States fear Mexican leadership of Latin America?

There would be something to fear if Mexico regarded it as her mission to lead a Latin American bloc *against* the United States. But no responsible Mexican conceives of that as her mission—and it will be the task of the United States, of course, as well as of Mexican leadership to make it both unnecessary and impossible.

Rather, Mexico is cut out for the role of bridge between the United States and Latin America. No Latin country is better equipped than Mexico, owing to her long border and long direct contact with North Americans, to interpret the United States to Latin America. At the same time, and for similar reasons, no Latin country is better equipped to interpret Latin America to the United States.

Acapulco could mark the beginning of a new epoch in inter-American relations which will draw all parts of the Western Hemisphere closer together into a strong, unified American family of nations. A family, Molina Enríquez urged, which would stand together against any European or Asian aggressor.



Zapata

(continued from page 18)

Son of a poor peasant, Emiliano had bitter childhood recollections of the land-grabbing Porfirio Díaz regime, and as he grew into a sturdy youth with night-black eyes and saw even more land wrenched away from the people, he became a militant and adored leader of the landless peons and *rancheros*. "Land and Liberty" was his slogan.

Federal troops moved against him, and after a bloody skirmish the *Zapatistas* moved back into the hills. They continued their warfare with a vengeance, and in the name of justice they burned and destroyed and looted and killed without mercy.

In the closing days of the Revolution, Zapata was invited to join the federal forces and in the accounting of troops was asked to parade his forces before Colonel Jesús María Guajardo on April 10, 1919. When he rode into the patio of the Chimomeca hacienda, the order was given to "Fire!" and hidden riflemen cut him down from all sides.

Zapata was a growth of the soil he loved so well. He was uncouth and his vocabulary as peppered with imprecations. Some of his letters illustrate the point:

"I am certain," he wrote to General Francisco Naranjo in 1912, "that what I am fighting for and defending is something just and humanitarian, and all these difficulties that are creeping around us are due to that Madero, who isn't man enough to Another runs: "Many times I have been offered great sums of money to abandon my cause, but no is going to buy me out."



Every year on the date of his death, orators step forward to praise Zapata's principles. His black sombrero and short jacket heavily embroidered with silver thread are on reverent display in the Cuernavaca museum. This "Attila of the South," as he was known, was unlike his namesake in one important respect. The weeds did not wither under Emiliano's feet; on the contrary, his agrarian theories helped restore farming to farmers, not only in the state of Morelos but all over Mexico.

EVERY TREE...

(continued from page II)

But even with all of this disruption, revolutionists continued to move education ahead. In 1914, the first nucleus of rural schools had been established, with an enrollment of 10,000 pupils. By 1924, the number had risen to 65,000.

Picking up the pieces of the revolution country left little time for serious school projects. Illiteracy was so rampant that only one Mexican out of two knew how to read and write.

In 1940, when Manuel Avila Camacho became President, he picked a Minister of Edu-

tinued with monumental school-building and teacher-training programs. Such magnificent projects as the new University City were completed, and every Presidential term was studed with inauguration ceremonies of schools—from modest one-room village units to streamlined plants in the bigger cities.

Still, education lagged behind the country's spectacular population growth (3.1 per cent a year). A new awakening was needed, and when President Adolfo López Mateos was inaugurated last December he pledged an all-out campaign against ignorance.

It was no hollow promise. He pushed through a record 250-million-dollar educational budget, and for his Minister of Education he produced just the man for the big job ahead:



cation who had just the qualities that Mexico needed to tackle this nagging problem: Jaime Torres Bodet, poet, writer, teacher, wise in organization and promotion.

Picking up and improving on the "Each One Teach One" idea that had been started a short time before in South America, Torres Bodet sold Mexico on an all-out attempt to eradicate illiteracy.

Considering it a patriotic move, matrons taught their servants how to read and write after the day's chores; blackboards were hung up on street corners in impromptu "classrooms"; schools maintained night courses for grownups; wrinkled hands learned the unfamiliar feel of a pencil; school children taught parents how to put words on paper.

The campaign set the pace, and in justice to subsequent administrations Mexico con-

Jaime Torres Bodet, back for his second term and as full of workable ideas as he was in the 1940s.

His first move was to get the President to appoint a special citizens committee made up of teachers, bankers, statisticians. Purpose: to study the feasibility of putting private money in the educational program that he hopes will give classroom space to every child in Mexico. At the moment, three-million Mexican children have no school to go to.

Besides the lack of classrooms and teachers, Mexico must figure how to reach the several million natives who speak no Spanish. Seven hundred thousand people speak only the Nahuatl (Aztec) tongue. In Yucatán and adjoining states, 300,000 speak Mayan. Thousands of others speak Mixteca, Otomí, and other Indian languages.

It's a big job, but it's being tackled by the right men. Never before has the Secretaría de Educación been so active. The two enormous patios in the interior of the building, enlivened by Diego Rivera frescos, are teeming with people. Professors, deans, rural townsmen bring their aspirations, needs and petitions with them. New offices are being readied, the big, two-block building is getting an addition, furniture is being moved, and over the incessant drone of conferences is the sound of hammering and the whine of buzz saws. Everywhere you hear the name of Torres Bodet, and the repetition of his phrase: "If need be, we'll make every tree a school. Education is every Mexican's birthright."

MTM suggests:

THE LAND AND PEOPLE OF MEXICO by Elsa Larralde

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For the garden, indoor or outdoor, country-club size or window-box type, flowers and plants are available in any number of nurseries, most of them out in Insurgentes. A listing of these could be endless, but we especially recommend the following:

JARDIN CORTES, Insurgentes 1261, tel. 24-76-28. Japanese dwarf trees a specialty.

JARDIN ENCANTO, Insurgentes 1579, tel. 24-74-72. Every kind of plant imaginable, including things like tulips and daffodils.

MATSUMOTO, Colima 92, Colonia Roma, tel. 14-25-86. Again, everything you have ever dreamed of in the flower and plant line ... rubber plants, split-leaf philodendron, cyclamen, gladiolas, chrysanthemums, roses, carnations, gloxinias, anthuriums, lilies of the valley, and an incredible variety of tuberous double, triple, and fringed begonias, as well as a complete collection of orchids.

If you don't want to bother to grow them, but just want to buy them, there are flowers in all the markets. There are also florists on every street corner, almost, and in most of the hotels.

Having bought your flowers and plants, you will naturally want some furniture for your garden. Of this, there is an infinite variety, some of it shockingly expensive, some of it amazingly reasonable. Nearly all the reasonable ones, most of which feature the tubular aluminum or steel type of furniture with plastic strips, are out on Insurgentes, and a brief listing follows:

MUEBLES MILLER, Insurgentes Sur 688, tel. 23-16-21. Noteworthy because they have locally-made umbrellas ... both with and without tables ... at quite a reasonable price.

MUEBLES JISA, Insurgentes Sur 1580, tel. 24-77-33.



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INDUSTRIAS LANDGRAVE, Insurgentes Sur 1196, tel. 24-85-46.

COLOR-ALUMEX, Insurgentes 535-A, tel. 11-84-71.

TLAQUEPAQUE, S. A., Luis Moya 49-bis, tel. 12-70-74 and 21-28-68. Mahogany and palm-weave, for the terrace rather than the garden.

More expensive, and even up into the astronomical, are the following:

CASA Y JARDIN, Prado Sur 425, tel. 20-10-35 —Monte Ararat 220, tel. 20-10-09. Not furniture, exactly, but a mouth-watering assortment of accessories for the terrace and garden. Most exciting: an iron barbecue stove on which twelve or more steaks or chickens may be barbecued. It has a rolling lid, which may be closed down for smoking (special instructions are included); also a wooden combination chopping-block and serving table at one side. This charming adjunct to garden or terrace entertaining rolls out on rubber-tired wheels, is not as expensive as it sounds, and would be the solution to out-door dining if you did not have, or want to build, a barbecue pit or grill. Incidentally, you could even cook things on the grill such as pots of beans, boiled corn, and such ... the area is really spacious. There is a smaller, barrel-shaped job that is called, appropriately, Old Smokey, which looks as if it would be fun for the kids to cook hamburgers and hot dogs on. Utensils, such as long-handled forks and such, are available here. So are

skewers, of varying lengths, for every kind of kebab or kabob. Also those long-handled steak broilers that you can use over an open fire. Cast-iron frying pans in varying sizes, the real old-fashioned kind, and a cast-iron kettle, caught my eye, as did giant-size salt shakers and pepper mills of walnut, and mustard and salad-dressing bottles of squeezable plastic. And for the final touch of service on the terrace, or even in the house ... individual stand and tray combinations which would certainly simplify matters considerably if you ran out of table space or if people wanted to scatter.

BRIONES: Perhaps the best-known of the mass-production furniture providers, Briones has showrooms at strategic points all over town. There is one out on Insurgentes; more readily available is the one at Florencia, on the corner of Londres. Here the outstanding piece is a table seating six, which is suitable for the terrace rather than the garden ... the table-top is laminated formica; the chairs are brass-finished steel in a delightful design, with plastic and foam rubber seats. This showroom also has small round faintly barrel-shaped chairs in plastic and foam rubber, with wrought-iron or brass-finish legs.

Mazarick 51, Polanco: Here is an assortment of garden furniture, although they also carry the terrace pieces shown at Florencia. Round bamboo chairs, like a deep sugar scoop, have wrought-iron legs and are amazingly comfortable. White iron chaises

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Mercaderes 51

And just off the press, "Man vs. Beast" — a 50 cent (U.S.) pocket-book on bull-fighting, with illustrations.

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longues are covered with plastic, closely woven, in vaguely Scotch plaid designs. Chairs to go with round umbrella tables have woven backs of white-painted iron to match their frames, and plastic cushions in delightful chintz patterns. Umbrellás, with round tables or with holders are in lovely colors ... aquamarine, yellow, deep blue ... but they are imported, and the price is high.

DECORAMA: at Havre 10 you will find the craziest, most wonderful, most irresistible garden or terrace furniture you ever saw. If you are building a house, or refurbishing an old one, don't buy a thing until you have looked at this, because you'll have to refurnish the whole house to live up to it. Thin wire, painted in delicate ice-cream colors such as pink, pistachio, plumbago, yellow and the customary white makes Charles Addams-type (or do I mean Mary Petty? In any case, **THE NEW YORKER**) chairs with elaborately woven high, high backs, round or square tables, chandeliers and tea-carts ... the latter deserving of a paragraph exclusively for them. Before I get to them, however, I'd like to mention that the tables are unique in that they are glass-topped, but with intricate and charming designs in painted wire under the glass ... the chairs have foam-rubber seats, covered in thick cotton fabric ... the chandeliers look like bird cages, in a way, and you can fill them with the delightful artificial flowers which you can find all over Mexico, or put a dish inside and change the flowers, fresh, according to your mood or decor.

Here is the paragraph to itself about the tea-cart ... such a really pedestrian word for such an incredible piece of furniture! This looks like a giant baby carriage, built for not less than twins, or possibly triplets ... a lovely, enormous, curving handle to push it by, rubber-tired wheels, layers of glass to stand things on, and a sort of deep well to stand bottles in ... but especially, two of the wheels are so enormous that it looks like a paddle-wheel river-boat combined with a pram. To push it, you need a nanny in a blue cape and crisp white uniform, plus a bartender in a starched white coat. Really and truly, *nothing* should stand between you and this wonderful piece of furniture. Remember, though, that if you buy this you should buy the rest of it ... table, chairs, chandelier ... in short, the works.

One last word about dishes ... CASA Y JARDIN have fancy, imported, expensive, but beautiful casseroles, with or without candle-warmers ... THE MUSEUM OF POPULAR ARTS (Museo de Artes Populares) on Avenida Juárez has an assortment of *cazuelas*, *ollas*, copper pots, and so on, not to mention the tiny baby *braseros* on which you can do individual charcoal broils, or cook tiny *ollas* of food. These would be fun to take home, and they also sell the *cazuelas* and the *ollas*.

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FLOWERS ON THE MENU

Barbara de Zouche Palmer

If you happen to have a squash crop handy, you can make *Quesadillas de Flor de Calabaza* with the brilliant yellow flowers which are gathered in the Spring. A *quesadilla* is very simple to make; take a raw *tortilla*, fill it with tender squash flowers which have been cooked in oil or lard with onion and a little garlic, and fry the folded *tortilla* in hot oil or lard until it is crisp and brown. The best ones have a few slices of green *chile serrano* chopped into the flowers during the cooking. You can buy the squash flowers in big bunches in almost any Mexican market, if you don't happen to grow your own. A tablespoon of oil and a tablespoon of chopped onion, and one mashed garlic clove, would be about right for each cup of flowers. Make plenty of these; you'll be amazed at how quickly they disappear.

In Oaxaca, they use the delicate buds called *puntas de guía* to make a soup... in Spring, when the squash is flowering and the corn ears are forming, these delicious little things are gathered, along with the flowers, and made into a soup. The recipe is so simple you feel sure they must have left something out: the buds and flowers are put into briskly boiling water, with chopped onion and mashed garlic, salt, and a spoonful of *tequesquite*, and cooked until they are tender. A good strong dash of *chile piquín* to color it, and there you are. Don't be alarmed by the word *tequesquite*: actually it is a soda substitute... crude earth containing potash, potassium, and sodium salts. Plain old bicarbonate will do the same.

A tremendous number of people have taken to eating out of doors in Mexico... taking a leaf out of the book of our neighbor to the North.

The difference between these *al fresco* meals and the ones served elsewhere lies, of course, in the sauce. The ingredients and processes used for barbecuing in Mexico are somewhat different from those used north of the border... for one thing, a Mexican barbecue never has any of that sweet-and-sour flavor produced in other countries by the mixing of vinegar and sugar and catsup; in Mexico, vinegar is used, but the seasoning is apt to be tomato, onion, garlic, spices, and a variety of hot peppers. Furthermore, there are a number of sauces which are served with different sorts of barbecue, such as avocado with mutton,

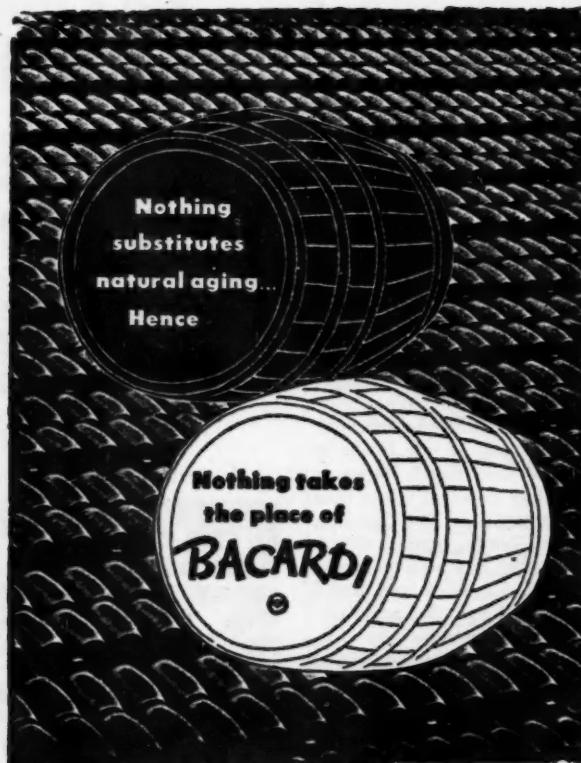
and *salsa borracha* (drunk sauce) with goat. The avocado one is simple... just coarsely mashed avocados with chopped tomatoes, coarsely chopped onions, mashed garlic to taste, slivers of the little green *chile serrano*, and leaves of fresh coriander. The drunk sauce can only be made in Mexico, in states which have fresh *pulque*, the fermented juice of the *maguey* cactus plant since it is usually made with a variety of *chile* called *mulato* (very dark red, almost black) and the liquid used is *pulque*.

A wonderful version of barbecue found in Mexico is called *Barbacoa en Mexiote*. To make this, have ready a rather thick sauce of tomatoes, onions, garlic, and your favorite kind of *chile*. The red *chile piquín* is perhaps the preferred one, and it so closely resembles cayenne pepper that you could substitute cayenne outside of Mexico. Now cut up your meat (preferably pork loin, very lean) as if for a stew. Have ready the thin sheets of parchment-like inside of the *maguey* leaf which is called *Mexiote*, put a sturdy helping of meat in the middle of it, cover it generously with sauce, and tie up the bundle with string or with strips of *maguey* leaf. The

bundles are then put into a deep cooking pot of clay or earthenware, and stood at the back of the fire to simmer for several hours, the longer the better.

For a party of a dozen or so, I should think about four pounds of pork would do; in making the sauce be sure to make plenty, because they should be really juicy. It is always possible to serve extra sauce, too. For this amount of meat you'll need about 10 cups of canned or fresh chopped tomatoes, stewed with a tablespoon of chopped onion and one clove of garlic, mashed, for each cup. For seasoning, use about two tablespoons of powdered cumin seed, salt to taste, black pepper, and cook the sauce in about one tablespoon of oil for each two cups of tomatoes.

With this dish, here in Mexico, we would serve a big earthen-ware *cazuela* full of fried rice, and another of half-fried and mashed beans. In the region where this dish is popular, black beans are preferred to the brown or kidney ones, but that's just a matter of taste. Both these dishes are cooked in the kitchen and then kept hot on the barbecue grill. Try a lettuce and cucumber salad with it, too. ¡BUEN PROVECHO!



✓ *Salvinia molesta* (L.) Brongn. 1959